

04-144 Department of Elections

Agency Description

The mission of the Department of Elections and Registration is to provide the citizens of the State of Louisiana with efficient, credible and reliable elections. The Department will ensure that the absentee and election day voting equipment is reliable and uses the highest degree of technology practically available. The Department will continue to work closely with the Department of State, Clerks of Court, and Registrars of Voters to ensure that the voting process in the state is carried out with the highest degree of efficiency and reliability. The Department will encourage voters to exercise their right to vote, a right provided in and protected by the Louisiana Constitution, through a program of outreach aimed at educating children and adults on the voting process. Last, the Department of Elections will continue to assist in making the merger and transition with the Department of State smooth and efficient.

The goals of the Department of Elections and Registration are:

1. Be prepared for any official election by holding in a state of readiness sufficient, appropriate and reliable equipment and personnel required to hold such elections
2. Obtain, maintain and program for each election the most accurate and technologically advanced absentee and election day voting equipment practically available
3. Administer the laws governing voter registration and elections
4. Work in conjunction with and provide support to all state and local election officers
5. Pay all election expenses (excluding the printing of ballots and election precinct supplies)
6. Maintain the statewide system for the registration of qualified citizens to vote

The Department of Elections and Registration is under the direction of the commissioner of elections, who is authorized under Article IV, Section 12 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, to exercise all functions of the state relating to the custody of voting machines and voter registration. The Department of Elections and Registration is comprised of five programs; Executive, Management and Finance, Information Technology, Voter Registration, and Elections.

AGENCY BUDGET SUMMARY

	ACTUAL 2001-2002	ACT 13 2002-2003	EXISTING 2002-2003	CONTINUATION 2003-2004	RECOMMENDED 2003-2004	RECOMMENDED OVER/(UNDER) EXISTING
MEANS OF FINANCING:						
STATE GENERAL FUND (Direct)	\$20,948,031	\$27,645,554	\$27,645,554	\$27,516,700	\$26,355,825	(\$1,289,729)
STATE GENERAL FUND BY:						
Interagency Transfers	46,263	50,000	50,000	0	0	(50,000)
Fees & Self-gen. Revenues	2,194,000	2,534,000	2,534,000	2,534,000	2,818,959	284,959
Statutory Dedications	0	211,315	211,315	0	0	(211,315)
Interim Emergency Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS	0	1	1	1	0	(1)
TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCING	\$23,188,294	\$30,440,870	\$30,440,870	\$30,050,701	\$29,174,784	(\$1,266,086)
EXPENDITURES & REQUEST:						
Executive	\$1,437,232	\$1,450,388	\$1,450,388	\$1,234,181	\$1,104,342	(\$346,046)
Management and Finance	936,600	903,158	903,158	954,782	735,829	(167,329)
Information Technology	2,486,882	2,955,680	2,955,680	3,018,860	2,925,918	(29,762)
Voter Registration	5,330,430	5,388,746	5,388,746	5,400,425	5,628,522	239,776
Elections	12,997,150	19,742,898	19,742,898	19,442,453	18,780,173	(962,725)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND REQUEST	\$23,188,294	\$30,440,870	\$30,440,870	\$30,050,701	\$29,174,784	(\$1,266,086)
AUTHORIZED FULL-TIME EQUIVALENTS: Classified	96	95	95	95	85	(10)
Unclassified	12	5	5	5	6	1
TOTAL	108	100	100	100	91	(9)